

COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA.

This is the Seat of Justice of Pottawattamie County. It is situated on the east bank of the Missouri River, and has a population of 12,000. It is the western terminus of the following railroads:

The Burlington and Missouri River; the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific; the Chicago and North-western; the Council Bluffs and Kansas City; and the Saint Louis, Chillicothe and Council Bluffs Railroad.

These railroads traverse the entire length of the State of Iowa, except the Council Bluffs and Kansas City, and the Saint Louis and Council Bluffs roads. Council Bluffs is connected with Dakota Territory, Minnesota and Wisconsin, by the Sioux City and Pacific Road, the Dubuque and Sioux City, and the McGregor and Western. Council Bluffs is also the actual and legal terminus of the Union Pacific Road, which is rapidly completing its bridge across the Missouri River at this point, thus making an unbroken line from San Francisco to New York. Hundreds of men are now at work on the bridge and its approaches, and in a short time it will be finished for traffic and travel.

The county in which Council Bluffs is situated, contains a thousand square miles of fertile lands. These are yet cheap and open for settlement, in great part. A number of railroad companies own large bodies of lands here, and have just put them upon the market on easy terms, and at low rates. The officers of any of them entering here will gladly impart all the necessary information regarding the lands of the companies they represent; it is impossible for us, in our present scope, to do that. Timber is plenty, and building material easily attainable by rail or wagon. The produce market at Council Bluffs is the best in the West. The railroad facilities give an opportunity for an immense shipment westward, where there is an exceedingly large demand, and at the same time afford us splendid opportunities for a wholesale trade extensively engaged in. This trade is constantly increasing; it has for its field the States and Territories of the entire Northwest. Many of our merchants are growing rich off of this trade; and at the next session of Congress, this place will be declared a port of entry (the Bill having passed the House of Representatives,) and the greatest facilities afforded for importations. Already Congress has established a District Court here, two terms a year, and as soon as the Senate shall say that it is a port of entry, Custom House buildings will be erected, and this made one of the great western points of distribution.

Manufactures have commenced, and invitations are extended for a further development of this branch of industry. Council Bluffs is now the distributing point of great quantities of agricultural machinery, all of which, so far, are manufactured in the East. Lumber and other materials for this purpose can be brought here at low rates, in the rough, and made up on the ground, and the products sold at a fair profit. This is the experience of those who have tried manufactures here. Capitalists who are seeking this kind of an investment, should at once come here and examine the subject. We merely throw out hints.

Council Bluffs has a gas company, already furnishing gas to the city, and a street railway. We have the best schools and school houses in the State, and numerous large and elegant church edifices. It is also

the seat of the State Deaf and Dumb Asylum, which is ready for occupancy. There are several flouring mills now in operation; a new one is nearly completed, and more are needed. Grain is daily shipped that ought to be ground into flour in Council Bluffs. The present mills are unable to do this, and more are wanted.

The raw material for the manufacture of paper of all kinds is going to loss for the want of some one to use it up; and if some practical man with capital would start and run a paper mill, he would find it a profitable employment. The trade here now in this article of merchandise is very large, and a home manufacturer could control the market, on account of the cheapness of the raw material. Coal, and everything requisite, with other fuel, is cheap and abundant. Rents for dwelling houses are not high, and the rates of living are moderate.

The city has two national banks, besides four private banking houses.

The abundance of corn brought to this market shows that there is a good foundation for the establishment of a starch factory, and there is no better location in the country for the building of a steam cracker bakery. The completion of the Union Pacific Railroad Bridge will signalize a great event in the history of Council Bluffs, by the transfer of the machine shops of the railroad company to the east side of the Missouri River, to the twelve hundred acres of ground they now own in Council Bluffs, and dedicated to that purpose. An immense union depot is contemplated, in which all the business of the great number of roads centering here will be united. This will necessarily attract the workshops of the various companies to this point.

The health of Council Bluffs cannot be excelled; it is entirely free from ague and other miasmatic diseases; the air is dry and wholesome; pulmonary diseases are almost entirely unknown. The cases prevalent are those of importation.

Looking over the ground we see what is still further wanted; we want a willow ware manufactory. The ground within a few miles of the city is peculiarly adapted to the growth of the osier. The experiment has been made, and with signal success. We want a plow factory, because this is a great distributing point for agricultural implements. We want a wagon factory, for the same reason; and we want manufactories for all kinds of agricultural implements for the same reason. Large quantities of chairs and other furniture are sold here, and for that we want somebody to go into the business of manufacturing them. We have already said that we needed a paper mill. We need more than one. Bryant's branch of Indian Creek furnishes splendid water for such an enterprise. To those seeking locations for the establishment of distilleries, this is the point. Grain is abundant and cheap, and the water of Mynster Spring, which has been tested, is inexhaustible. The people want a soap factory. Great quantities of hogs and other animals are annually slaughtered here for meat, and the offals go to loss for the want of an economical employment of the refuse. Bones and glutinous matter every year go to loss, sufficient to supply the raw material for a large manufactory in its consumption. We also need a tallow factory, for the using up of the tallow annually made in this city. Above all, we are at a point where a car factory would be a decided success. We have already stated the number of railroads that centre here; and were there a car factory in this vicinity it would add materially to the business of the place, and be certain of profit to those who engage in it.

Wool growing interests are on the increase. We know of no better place in the country for the establishment of houses for the manufacture of all kinds of knit and woolen goods than Council Bluffs.

Building is rapidly progressing, and this is the very spot for enterprising men who wish to invest in planing mills. They can make money here if they have the energy requisite for western life.

We desire to say one thing to men coming west; that they dare not be lazy. There is no room for lazy men here.

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